

Section II (Remarks)

The present application was the subject of a Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review filed August 25, 2006, which was the subject of a Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review dated October 5, 2006 setting a one month period for filing of an appeal brief.

This amendment therefore is accompanied by a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), submitted for concurrent filing herewith, to continue the prosecution of this application in lieu of appeal.

Amendment of Claims 1, 6, 7, 11-14 and 25

Claims 1, 6, 7, 11-14 and 25 have been amended herein to place the application in condition for allowance. Claim 5 has been allowed, as confirmed by the panel in the October 5, 2006 Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review.

By the present amendments, claims 6, 7 and 11 have been placed into dependence under claim 5, and therefore are likewise now allowable.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the interior space is above the wells, that the removable sealing lid is "positioned on and dimensionally coextensive with the top of the thermally conductive block, being in abutment with edges of the thermally conductive block and securable thereto for leak-tightly sealing the thermally conductive block to form a closed vessel," and that the outlet is "a valved outlet passage ... in vapor flow communication with the interior space, for discharge of vapor formed in the vaporizer." Corresponding recital of the sealing lid has been introduced in claim 25. Such amendments are consistent with the disclosure of Figure 1 and the appertaining disclosure in the instant specification.

Claim 12 has been amended to recite the valved outlet passage as comprising a conduit secured to a central portion of said sealing lid, as a single piece structure. Claim 13 has been amended to recite that the sealing lid is arranged to allow flow of vapor from the interior space out of the vaporizer only through said valved outlet passage. Such amendments are consistent with Figure 1 and the appertaining disclosure of the specification.

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Claim 14 has been amended to recite that the sealing lid is secured to the thermally conductive block by mechanical fasteners, as shown in Figure 1, and the heating device is recited as including resistors attached to the thermally conductive block, a thermocouple attached to the thermally conductive block, and a temperature controller and power supply operatively arranged so that the temperature controller is actuated in response to temperature sensed by the thermocouple, to energize the resistors for heating of the thermally conductive block, as shown in Figure 4 and described in the appertaining description of the specification.

No new matter (35 USC 132) has been added by such amendments.

The claims as thus amended patentably demarcate over the references cited in the May 18, 2006 Office Action.

It therefore is requested that the prosecution of this application be continued, consistent with the accompanying RCE submission, upon entry of this amendment.

A credit card authorization form is enclosed and submitted herewith, directing charging of the RCE fee of \$790 to the credit card identified in such form. Authorization also is hereby given to charge the amount of any additional fee or amount that may be properly payable in connection with such RCE and the present amendment, to Deposit Account No. 08-3284 of Intellectual Property/Technology Law.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures:
RCE Transmittal [1 pg.]
Credit Card Form [1 pg.]

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